

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q80461

Michael WALKER

Appln. No.: Not Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Assigned

Filed: March 30, 2004

Examiner: Not Assigned

For: VIRTUAL MICROPHONE ARRAY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents, other than any U.S. patents and patent publications, is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

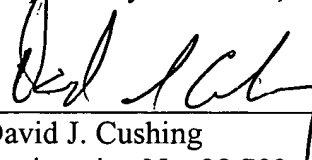
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
Attorney Docket Q80461

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 30, 2004

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| Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | <i>Complete if Known</i> | |
| | | | | Application Number | Not Assigned |
| | | | | Confirmation Number | Not Assigned |
| | | | | Filing Date | March 30, 2004 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Michael WALKER |
| | | | | Art Unit | Not Assigned |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Not Assigned |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | Q80461 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Translation ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | |
| | | EP | 1 278 185 | A2 | 01/22/03 | Alcatel | Yes |
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| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
| | | T. Tazawa et al, "A fully passive echo-canceller using a single microphone" INSTRUMENTATION AND MEASUREMENT TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE, 1994. IMTC/94. CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS. 10 th ANNIVERSARY. ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES IN I & M. 1994 IEEE, Hamamatsu, Japan, May 10-12, 1994, NY, NY, USA, May 10, 1994, pp. 1191-1194, XP010121945 | Yes |
| | | D. Cole et al, "Robust Enhancement of Reverberant Speech Using Iterative Noise Removal", 5 th EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON SPEECH COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY, EUROSPEECH '97. Rhodes, Greece, September 22-25, 1997, EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON SPEECH COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY. Grenoble, ESCA, France, Vol. 5 of 5, September 22, 1997, pp. 2603-2606, XP001045222 | Yes |
| | | Jose M. Paez BORRALLLO et al, "One the implementation of a partitioned block frequency domain adaptive filter (PBFDAF) for long acoustic echo cancellation", SIGNAL PROCESSING. EUROPEAN JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE METHODS AND APPLICATIONS OF SIGNAL PROCESSING, Elsevier Science Publishers B.V., Amsterdam, NL, Vol. 27, No. 3, June 1 1992, pp. 301-315, XP000363587 | Yes |
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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.